

Remarks

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-19 are now pending in this application. Claim 17 has been amended. Claims 20 has been canceled. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Drawings Objections

The Examiner has noted that the drawings fail to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(d). The Examiner has required corrected formal drawings.

Pursuant to the Examiner's requirement, corrected formal drawings have been submitted.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that claims 2-9, 14-16 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Limitations similar in scope to allowable claim 20 have been incorporated into independent claim 17. It is respectfully asserted that claims 17-19 should now be considered allowable.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102-Harman

Claims 1 and 10-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Harman. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant's independent method claim 1 recites a combination of steps in a method "of calibrating a system for detecting a location of a potential breach along a security fence." The method claimed step includes:

taking note of a ground distance between a reference point and the certain position;

...

determining an associated cable length existing between the light transmission and reception device and the interruption in the fiber optic cable; and

recording the ground distance and the associated cable length in a memory.

It is respectfully asserted that Harman fails to show or suggest the claimed method steps.

Harman shows a method of calibrating a fiber optic security fence. However, Harman is calibrating the responsiveness of the system in various zones along the fence to an intrusion. There is no calibration process in Harmon to determine a ground distance to the intrusion.

Harmon teaches that the intensity of a reflected pulse at an intrusion point will be different depending upon the general area along the fence (which Harmon refers to as a range cell) at which the intrusion occurs. Harman's

"calibration process accounts for variations in the sensitivity of transducer cable 5 due to cable imperfections, condition of the fence fabric, location of the fence posts, etc." (Col. 14, lines 18-21). The purpose of Harman's calibration is to reduce the number of false alarms, through "the use of multiple individual thresholds," for each range cell. See Col. 15, lines 3-32.

Harman determines the distance to the intrusion point using a simple mathematical formula, as revealed in col. 9, lines 44-53. Therefore, Harman uses a location approximation approach, as described in Applicant's "Background of the Invention" section of the specification, in paragraphs 12-14.

Harman fails to show or suggest a calibration method regarding the location of the breach. Moreover, Harman fails to show or suggest any method step where note is taken of a ground distance between a reference point and a certain position where a person interrupts light traveling in a security fence. In Harman, a person simply strikes the fence with a uniform "standard" force (col. 14, line 11). The person does not make note of a ground distance when making the strike. Moreover, there is no recording of the ground distance along with the associated cable length in a memory. In Harman, there is recording of the intensity of the pulse along with the associated cable length in a memory, in order to establish a relevant threshold level.

Applicant's independent claim 13 recites structural features paralleling the method limitation discussed above. Specifically claim 13 recites a calibration

system for calibrating a monitoring system for detecting a location of a potential breach along a security fence, including:

a first wireless communications device operated by a first person moving along the security fence, after the first person interrupts light traveling through said fiber optic cable at a certain position, said first wireless communications device transmitting a ground distance from a reference point to the certain position;

a second wireless communications device receiving the ground distance from said first wireless communications device; and

a memory connected to said controller, wherein said light transmission and reception device in cooperation with said controller determines an associated cable length existing between the light transmission and reception device and the interruption in the cable, and wherein said controller stores the ground distance and the associate cable length in said memory.

Harman fails to show or suggest the first or second wireless communications devices. Also, Harman fails to show or suggest the first wireless device transmitting a ground distance from a reference point to the certain position, and a controller storing the ground distance and the associate cable length in a memory.

Claims 10-12 depend from claim 1, and should be considered allowable for at least the same reasons, as advanced above.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 - Maki

Claims 17-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Maki (U.S. Publication No. 2005/0024210). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant has inserted limitations from allowable claim 20 into independent claim 17. Specifically, Applicant has inserted the phrase “wherein said step of calculating the approximate location of the potential breach within the zone is based upon an average weave pattern density of the fiber optic cable for the zone” into claim 17. This phrase differs from the prior limitation of canceled claim 20, in that the words “includes determining” have been replaced by the words “is based upon.” It is respectfully submitted that claims 17-19 are now in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn.

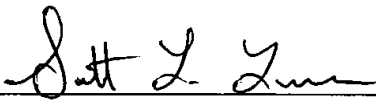
It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Mr. Scott L. Lowe (Reg. No. 41,458) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: Figures 1-7